

SENATOR CATHY OSTEN

Nineteenth District

Legislative Office Building
Room 2100

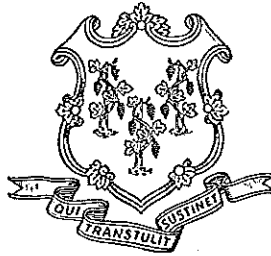
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State of Connecticut
SENATE

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Chair testified on
Planning & Development Committee,
Vice Chair this
Aging Committee bill
Housing Committee
Labor & Public Employees Committee
Member
Transportation Committee

Government Administration and Elections Committee

February 25th, 2015

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In **SUPPORT** of Proposed Senate Bill 112

An Act Designating a Week in October as Male Breast Cancer Awareness Week

Chairman Cassano, Chairman Jutila, and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, thank you for hearing Senate Bill 112. I am here to testify in support of Proposed Senate Bill 112, *An Act Designating a Week in October as Male Breast Cancer Awareness Week*.

As many of you know, October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. And while Breast Cancer is primarily known as a women's disease, it is a disease that in some rare cases, affects men too. In fact, it is my understanding that 80 percent of men are unaware that they can be diagnosed with breast cancer. I have a few male constituents in my district who were brave enough to contact me and share their personal stories; which formed the basis for the legislation in front of you today.

I believe that, as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we dedicate a week to educating the public that men can and do suffer from this disease. Awareness and education are key tools that we have in our toolbox to address this very personal, and oftentimes treatable, public health issue.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 112.